

IN HONOR OF RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Rabbi Arthur Schneier, an international leader for religious freedom and tolerance and a role model and inspiration to the world. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating his 70th birthday by expressing our nation's deep appreciation and gratitude for his life and work.

Rabbi Schneier has displayed an unshakable dedication to human rights and religious freedom, and a deep devotion to justice and decency for all people. Spiritual leader of the historic landmark Park East Synagogue since 1962, Rabbi Schneier has acted as a diplomat and envoy for four U.S. Presidents. He has served as Chairman of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad. He was selected by President Clinton to be one of three U.S. religious leaders to meet with President Jiang Zemin and top leaders of the Chinese Government to enter into the first official dialogue on religious freedom in China. Among many other contributions to U.S. diplomacy, Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Schneier negotiated and successfully completed bilateral agreements with the Czech and Slovak Republics, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, and Ukraine.

Rabbi Schneier is certainly one of this century's great human rights leaders, Mr. Speaker. In 1965, he established the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an ecumenical coalition of business and religious leaders, advocating mutual understanding, tolerance and peace. Rabbi Schneier has contributed greatly to the peaceful emergence of new democracies in Russia and the countries of Eastern Europe. Through spiritual wisdom, perseverance, and leadership, Rabbi Schneier has quelled ethnic conflict the world over, protecting minorities and securing the reign of peace.

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that those in the midst of chaos and destruction, in the aftermath of earthquakes in Turkey and Armenia, floods in Romania, and natural disasters around the globe, rejoiced in the aid Rabbi Schneier was able to provide through organization, inspiration, and faith. His work provided hope to thousands and saved lives in times of great need and suffering.

Rabbi Schneier is an inspiration to all who aspire to lives of hope, peace, and understanding. His convictions are noble and immutable. His faith and his devotion to peace remain undeterred. His influence around the world is a blessing to human kind. Mr. Speaker, I salute the life and work of Rabbi Arthur Schneier and I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Rabbi Schneier's contributions to the New York community, to our great country, and to the world.

HONORING MR. THOMAS W. FISCHER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2000

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated service of Special Agent Thomas W. Fischer to the people of the United States. Mr. Fischer entered the Naval Criminal Investigative Service in 1977 and demonstrated early in his career that he possessed ambition and integrity that would lead him into a successful lifelong career. Special Agent Fischer began his enforcement career on February 27, 1967, with the Baltimore City Police Department. He served honorably and with valor for 10 years. Due to his considerable skills, tact, courage, and dedication to duty, he was promoted from patrolman to detective, tactical sergeant, detective sergeant, and lieutenant (select). While serving with the Baltimore City Police Department, Thomas W. Fischer received nine official commendations for valor and meritorious service.

In 1977 Thomas W. Fischer began a career in Federal law enforcement as a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. His first assignment was at the Maryland State Capitol in Annapolis. As a seasoned law enforcement veteran he was quickly recognized as a rising star and leader. Continuing in his remarkable career, during the Iranian crisis, Thomas W. Fischer was assigned as the only civilian Federal agent aboard the U.S.S. *Dwight D. Eisenhower*. Tom set the NCIS Special Agent longevity record for at-sea time as a Special Agent Afloat (SAA), with 247 days at sea out of 255 days on deployment. This record remains to this day.

Following his exploits at sea, Special Agent Fischer was assigned briefly to the NCIS office in Washington, DC. In 1981 Special Agent Fischer, ever in search of a challenge, transferred to NAS Cubi Point, the Philippines. After only a year, he was promoted to Squad Leader for the Foreign Counterintelligence (FCI) Squad, Subic Bay. He was subsequently promoted to the position of Assistant Regional Director (FCI) for the Regional NCIS Office, Philippines. In June 1985 Special Agent Fischer accepted an assignment as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge for FCI at the NCIS office at Long Beach, CA. In August 1986, Tom transferred to NCIS Headquarters where he served as a Senior Staff Assistant to the Director as the Special Agent Afloat Program Manager.

In 1987, Special Agent Fischer made history while assigned to the Bobsled Task Force investigating Marine Security Guard espionage activity. Special Agent Fischer traveled to Moscow, U.S.S.R. where he conducted interviews and other inquiries at the American Embassy.

In September 1987, continuing supervisory ascent, Mr. Fischer was named Deputy Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS office in Washington, DC. In October 1988, Special Agent Fischer was named Special Agent in Charge of the Regional Fraud Unit, National Capitol Region, Washington DC. During June 1991, Special Agent Fischer assumed duties as the Deputy Regional Director of the NCIS European Region London, United Kingdom.

He was then promoted to Regional Director where he served with distinction until his selection as Assistant Director for Inspections in May 1994.

During the past 6 years, Mr. Fischer, as an Assistant Director, has brought vision, candor, and insight to many issues instrumental in building the NCIS of today. Special Agent Fischer served honorably and served as a role model and leader for an entire agent corps, who by living according to his high standard, remains as his lasting legacy to the organization he so nobly served.

Special Agent Fischer's career, which includes active duty service in the U.S. Armed Forces from March 1962 to September 1965, spans five decades of service to the people of the United States.

COMMENDING ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS OF STATIONS KEZI, KMTR, KVAL, KEVU AND KLSR

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2000

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to an unprecedented cooperative campaign by several television stations in my congressional district. Earlier this year, stations in Eugene, OR, set aside competition and simulcast a half-hour documentary on the effects of drug abuse, "Drug Wars: One Family's Battle." The documentary was produced by Medford Oregon-based Crime Prevention Resources.

In addition, three stations—KEZI, KMTR and KVAL—also sponsored and simultaneously broadcast a special 1 hour town hall meeting that featured individual stories, a panel of experts and telephone call-ins, all discussing the impacts of drug abuse and methods to combat the problem. This locally simulcast townhall was a first in our community and possibly the nation.

I congratulate and commend these stations and the community on this collaborative and innovative endeavor to combat the serious problem of drug abuse. By saturating our local airwaves for a short time, they were able to ensure this anti-drug message reached the widest possible audience. This impressive feat should be a model for the nation.

Winning the war on drugs requires an extraordinary effort from the grassroots level up. I encourage my colleagues to pursue a similar effort with television stations in their respective congressional districts. It is a unique and rewarding opportunity to work together towards the common goal of ending drug abuse in our communities.

Again, I salute the efforts of these television stations on their historic effort.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR ROBERT ROSEGARTEN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert Rosegarten upon his